



**Office of the Board of Selectmen
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NEWTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

DATE: AUGUST 25, 2021

TIME: 5:30M

LOCATION: NEWTON TOWN HALL, 2 TOWN HALL ROAD

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Chairman Foote called the meeting to order at 5:30pm. In attendance were Selectmen, Lawrence B. Foote, Chairman, Charles R. Melvin Sr., Vice-Chairman, Edwin Crnolic, Matthew A. Burrill, via phone & Town Administrator Nancy J. Wrigley. The public meeting was audio taped and transcribed and typed by Town Administrator Wrigley.

Selectmen Kathryn Michaels was excused this evening, along with Board of Selectmen Secretary Diane M. Morin.

II. Scheduled Business

Chairman Foote explained that at the August 23, 2021 meeting, a motion was made to approve Robert Zalenski as the Interim Deputy Fire Warden in the absence of the Fire Chief, and he has since found out that the Fire Chief appoints his Deputy's.

Selectman Melvin moved to rescind his motion made on August 23, 2021 to approve Robert Zalenski as the Interim Fire Warden Deputy, effective 08/25/2021. Seconded by Selectman Crnolic with a unanimous roll call vote: Foote – aye, Melvin – aye, Burrill – aye, Crnolic – aye.

Chairman Foote informed the Board that Engine 2 (Trade-in) with the Turbo issue is at Cote's Garage in Lawrence, MA and they provided an estimate of \$5,000.00. He said he spoke to another Fire Chief who had the same issue, submitted it through their insurance, and they paid it.

Chairman Foote moved that the Board vote to fix the turbo with an amount not to exceed \$5,500.00, only upon receipt of an invoice from Cote's Garage first thing tomorrow morning. Seconded by Selectman Melvin for discussion.

Mr. Melvin stated the reason for this discussion tonight is because there is only one turbo in the country, and they are anticipating a couple of weeks for delivery. There is already a bill coming from the Tow Company taking it to Cote's and if it isn't fixed there will be another towing charge to bring it back. It would be better to fix it then to spend all of this money and not have it fixed.

Selectman Burrill said he would feel better if he knew the insurance company would pay for it.

The vote was called: Foote - aye, Melvin- aye, Crnolic – aye, Burrill – nay.

A. New Fire Truck Delivery – Sign Final Acceptance Certificate.

Selectman Foote informed the Board that the delivery of the new Fire Truck, scheduled for Wednesday, 08/25/2021 was postponed to Tuesday, 08/31/2021. This decision is due to the Board voting tonight on who will sign the Final Acceptance Certificate, to be submitted to the leasing company.

Selectman Crnolic moved to have the Chairman Foote sign the new Engine 2 Acceptance Certificate. Seconded by Selectman Melvin for discussion.

Chairman Foote said he is not sure what time the truck is coming next Tuesday morning, but if more than two Selectmen plan on attending, they will need to post it as a public meeting.

Selectman Burrill said he doesn't mind if Chairman Foote signs it however, the things we know today and the circumstances that can happen a week from now, are hard to foresee.

The vote was called: Foote - aye, Melvin- aye, Crnolic – aye, Burrill – aye.

Selectman Burrill asked to put in the minutes: "my concern is I am voting to sign for something, and I don't know what all the circumstances are yet, but I am an "aye" otherwise".

Fire Department – Shift Coverage

Chairman Foote informed the Board that Chief Alcadinho sent a text to him saying that he has no help, and he wants to allow some members to work up to 36 hours per week, every other week. He said he spoke with Bookkeeper Hughes, and she said, "as long as it isn't regularly scheduled hours, that would be fine on a temporary basis". He said that although the State of Emergency (COVID-19) has been lifted, they are still under the pandemic, so they can still do that, and there is no increase in salary.

Town Administrator Wrigley informed the Board that if they are putting in more hours, you will need to see if the budget can support it. Chairman Foote said this is a discussion for another time.

School Resource Officer Meeting with School

Selectman Crnolic asked how the meeting went on Tuesday with the town and the school regarding the Resource Officer. Selectman Burrill said Police Chief Jewett is trying to reschedule the meeting.

III. Adjourn

Selectman Melvin moved to adjourn at 5:41pm. Seconded by Selectman Burrill with a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Wrigley
Town Administrator